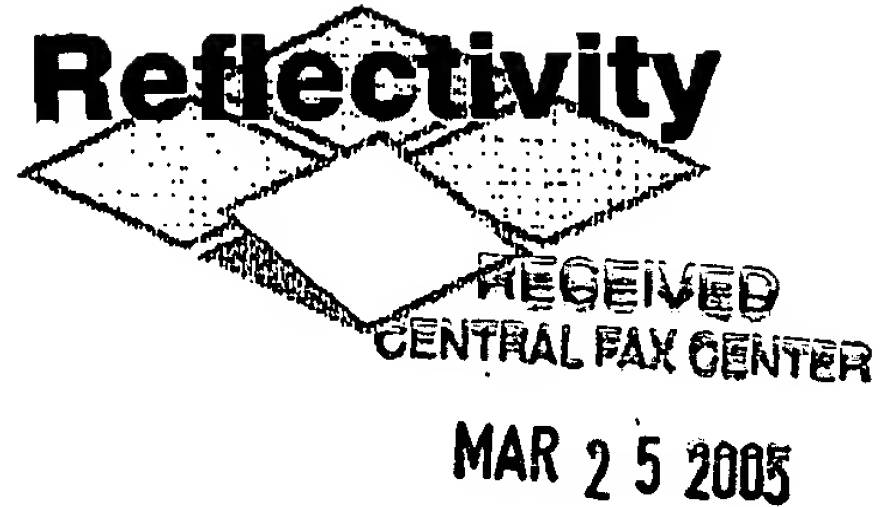


350 POTRERO AVENUE
SUNNYVALE, CA 94085
TEL: (408) 737-8100
FAX: (408) 737-8153

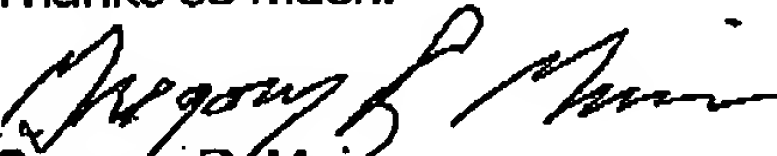


To: Allan Olsen **From:** Gregory Muir
Fax: 703-872-9306 **Pages:** 7
Phone: **Date:** March 25, 2005
Re: 09/954,864 **CC:**

☒ Urgent ☐ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply ☐ Please Recycle

We are in receipt of the Notice of Allowance and in reviewing the file we noticed that we have not received back the Information Disclosure Statement PTO 1449 forms that we filed on October 7, 2004. Attached please find the forms. Please sign and send back to us.

Thanks so much!


Gregory R. Muir
Reg No. 35,293

MAR 25 2005

PTO/SB/06A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTD			Complete If Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	09/954,864
			Filing Date	9/17/01
			First Named Inventor	Patel
			Art Unit	1783
			Examiner Name	Olsen, Allan
			Attorney Docket Number	P68-US
Sheet	1	of	6	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (If known)			
		US- 3,511,727	05-12-1970	Hays, R.G.	
		US- 4,180,488	02-26-1980	Winters, H.F.	
		US- 4,310,380	12-12-1982	Flamm et al.	
		US- 4,498,953	02-12-1985	Cook et al.	
		US- 6,051,503	04-18-2000	Bhardwal, J.K.	
		US- 6,438,229	08-20-2002	Tal et al.	
		US- 6,162,367	12-19-2000	Tal et al.	
		US- 6,290,864 B1	09-18-2001	Patel et al.	
		US- 6,355,181 B1	03-12-2002	McQuarrie, A.D.	
		US- 2001/0002663 A1	06-07-2001	Tal et al.	
		US- 5,439,553	08-08-1995	Grant et al.	
		US- 2002/0033229 A1	03-21-2002	Loboultz et al.	
		US- 2002/0198524 A1	12-26-2002	Huibers, et al.	
		US- 2003/0054568 A1	03-20-2003	Patel, et al.	
		US- 5,728,480	03-10-1998	Pister, K.S.	
		US- 2002/0185698	12-12-2002	Reid	
		US- 2002/0121502 A1	09-15-2002	Patel, et al.	
		US- 5,835,256	11-10-1998	Huibers, A.	
		US- 2002/0047172 A1	04-25-2002	Reid	
		US- 2003/0186342 A1	09/04/03	Chinn, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ⁶	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If known)				
		EP-0704884-A2	04-03-1998	Mehta, J.		
		EP-0822582-A2	02-04-1998	Bhardwal, J.K.		
		EP-0822584-A2	04-04-1998	Bhardwal, J.K.		
		WO-98/49506	09-30-1999	McQuarrie, A.D.		
		EP-0878824-A2	11-18-1998	McQuarrie et al.		
		EP-0878824-A3	01-19-2000	McQuarrie et al.		
		JP-1982/57088679-A	06-18-1982	Tsunetoshi, A.		
		JP-1983/58130529-A	08-04-1983	Yoshihiro et al.		
		JP-1985/60057938-A	04-03-1985	Katsumi et al.		
		WO-98/32163	07-23-1998	Tal et al.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/054,864		
		Filing Date	9/17/01		
		First Named Inventor	Patel		
		Art Unit	1763		
		Examiner Name	Olsen, Allan		
Sheet	2	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	P68-US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 8,409,878 B1	08-25-2002	McQuarrie, et al.	
		US- 6,986,619 B1	05-28-2002	Huibers, et al.	
		US- 6,578,489 B2	08/10/03	Leung, et al.	
		US- 6,238,581	05-29-2001	Hawkins, et al.	
		US- 6,115,172	09-05-2000	Jeong	
		US- 6,204,080	03-20-2001	Hwang	
		US- 2003/0071015 A1	04/17/03	Chinn, et al.	
		US- 2002/0184879 A1	11/07/02	Leung, et al.	
		US- 2002/0183051 A1	11/07/02	Gopal, et al.	
		US- 2003/0077878 A1	04/24/03	Kumar, et al.	
		US- 6,197,610 B1	03/06/2001	Toda	
		US- 6,500,356 B2	12/31/02	Goto, et al.	
		US- 2003/0124848 A1	07/03/03	Chinn, et al.	
		US- 2003/0219988 A1	11/27/03	Rattner, et al.	
		US- 4,551,197	11/05/85	Gulmetta, et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP-1997/09251981-A	09-22-1997	Kazuaki et al.		
		JP-1998/10313128-A	11-24-1998	Hanmin et al.		
		JP-1998/10317169-A	12-02-1998	McQuarrie et al.		
		JP-1986/61187238-A	08-20-1986	Nobuo et al.		
		JP-1986/61270830-A	12-01-1986	Toru, T.		
		JP-1987/62071217-A	04-01-1987	Toru et al.		
		JP-1988/63155713-A	08-28-1988	Tedashi, F.		
		JP-1988/61053732-A	03-17-1986	Arata et al.		
		JP-1986/61134019-A	06-21-1986	Shinji et al.		
		JP-1986/61181131-A	08-13-1986	Shinji et al.		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

-2-

FTC/88/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete If Known	
				Application Number	09/954,864
				Filing Date	9/17/01
				First Named Inventor	Patel
				Art Unit	1763
				Examiner Name	Olsen, Allan
				Attorney Docket Number	P68-US
Sheet	3	of	6		

[illegible][illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinda Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**

PTO/SB/08B (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		Complete If Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/954,864
		Filing Date	9/17/01
		First Named Inventor	Patel
		Group Art Unit	1763
		Examiner Name	Olsen, Allan
		Attorney Docket Number	P68-US
Sheet	4	of	6

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		ALIEV et al., "Development of Si(100) Surface Roughness at the Initial Stage of Etching in F ₂ and XeF ₂ Gases Ellipsometric Study", Surface Science 442 (1999), pp. 208-214.	
		GLUEMEISTER, J.M., "Xenon Difluoride Etching System" (Nov. 17, 1997).	
		HABUKA et al., "Dominant Overall Chemical Reaction in a Chlorine Trifluoride-Silicon-Nitrogen System at Atmospheric Pressure", Japan Journal of Applied Physics Vol. 38 (1999), pp. 6466-6469.	
		HECHT et al., "A Novel X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy Study of the Al/SiO ₂ Interface", J. Appl. Phys. Vol. 57 (June 15, 1985), pp. 5256-5261.	
		HOULE, F.A., "Dynamics of SiF ₄ Desorption During Etching of Silicon by XeF ₂ ", IBM Almaden Research Center (April 15, 1987), pp. 1866-1872.	
		FLAMM et al., "XeF ₂ and F-Atom Reactions with Si: Their Significance for Plasma Etching", Solid State Technol. 26, 117 (1983).	
		IBBOTSON et al., "Plasmaless Dry Etching of Silicon with Fluorine-containing Compounds", J. Appl. Phys. Vol. 66 No. 10 (Nov. 1984), pp. 2939-2942.	
		IBBOTSON et al., "Comparison of XeF ₂ and F-atom Reactions with Si and SiO ₂ ", Applied Physics Letter, Vol. 44, 1129 (1984).	
		STRELLER et al., "Selectivity in Dry Etching of Si (100) and XeF ₂ and VUV Light", Elsevier Science B.V., Applied Surface Science Vol. 106 (1996), pp. 341-346.	
		VUGTS et al., "Si/XeF ₂ Etching: Temperature Dependence", J. Vac. Sci. Technol. A 14(5) (Sep/Oct 1996), pp. 2766-2774.	
		WINTERS, H.F., "Etch Products from the Reaction of XeF ₂ with SiO ₂ , SiO ₃ , Si ₃ N ₄ , SiC, and Si in the Presence of Ion Bombardment", J. Vac. Sci. Technol. B 1(4) (Oct/Dec 1983), pp. 927-931.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

"EXAMINER:" Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

PTO/SB/08B (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/954,864
		Filing Date	9/17/01
		First Named Inventor	Patel
		Group Art Unit	1763
		Examiner Name	Olsen, Allan
		Attorney Docket Number	P68-US
Sheet	5	of	6

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		Kurt Williams, Etch Rates for Micromachining Processing-Part II, 2003 IEEE, Pgs 761-778, Journal of Microelectromechanical Systems, Vol. 12, No. 6, December 2003.	
		WINTERS et al., "The Etching of Silicon with XeF ₂ Vapor", Appl. Phys. Letters, Vol. 34(1) (January 1, 1979), pp. 70-73.	
		XACTIX, Inc., Marketing Brochure (June 27, 1999).	
		"Xenon Difluoride Isotropic Etch Systems: Seeing is Believing", Surface Technology Systems Ltd, brochure, Newport, UK (date unknown).	
		CHU et al., "Controlled Pulse-Etching with Xenon Difluoride", International Solid State Sensors and Actuators Conference (Transducers '97), Chicago, IL, Vol. 1 (June 16 - 19, 1997), pp. 685-688 (abstract only).	
		BASSOM et al., "Modeling and Optimizing XeF ₂ -enhanced FIB Milling of Silicon", 25th International Symposium for Testing and Failure Analysis, Santa Clara, CA (Nov. 14 - 18, 1999), pp. 255-261 (abstract only).	
		KOHLER et al., "Fabrication of Microlenses by Plasmaless Isotropic Etching Combined with Plastic Molding", Sens. Actuators A, Phys. (Switzerland), Vol. A53, No. 1-3 (May 1996), pp. 361-363 (abstract only).	
		CHAN et al., "Gas Phase Pulse Etching of Silicon for MEMS with Xenon Difluoride", Engineering Solutions for the Next Millennium: 1999 IEEE Canadian Conference on Electrical and Computer Engineering, Edmonton, Alberta, Vol. 3 (May 8 - 12, 1999), pp. 1637-1642 (abstract only).	
		CHANG et al., "Gas-Phase Silicon Micromachining with Silicon Difluoride", Proceedings of the SPIE - The International Society for Optical Engineering, Vol. 2641 (1995), pp. 117-128 (abstract only).	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

PTO/SB/08B (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/954,884
				Filing Date	8/17/01
				First Named Inventor	Patal
				Group Art Unit	1763
				Examiner Name	Olsen, Allan
Sheet	6	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	P68-US

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.